

To the Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee:

As a carless, year-round transportation cyclist and Vice President of Bike Walk Connecticut, I support the Governor's proposals to develop and fund a first-rate active transportation network of bike lanes, greenways, multiuse paths, and pedestrian infrastructure in Connecticut. Please support HB 6840.

My hometown of Hartford has been ravaged by a half-century of car-centric planning and neighborhoods like mine suffer the consequences to this very day. I am one of many people who depend on a bicycle for personal transportation and have had the pleasure of spending time in places (Portland, OR, New York, NY) that take us seriously and know that improving conditions for people on bikes and on foot improves health and quality of life for all.

The notion that widening highways could solve traffic congestion has been proven wrong over and over, while bike infrastructure has been proven a cost-effective driver of economic growth and livability at a tiny fraction of the cost of automotive infrastructure. Connecticut is long overdue to make real strides toward economic and environmental viability, and bike and pedestrian infrastructure will give our residents and visitors the most bang for our buck of anything out there.

Sincerely,  
Christopher D. Brown